

RESOLUTION 19-_____

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF LOGAN COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA TO OPPOSE
THE CREATION, ESTABLISHMENT, OR OPERATION OF A NEEDLE EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITHIN
LOGAN COUNTY

WHEREAS, a needle exchange program, also commonly known as a syringe exchange program, is a social service that allows injecting drug users to obtain hypodermic needles and associated paraphernalia at little or no cost to the users; and

WHEREAS, the first obligation of the Logan County Commission is to ensure the safety and well-being of its residents; and

WHEREAS, a public health threat is posed to residents and public employees by the increase of discarded needles in public places; and

WHEREAS, multiple recent instances of public employees and members of the general public being pricked by discarded needles have been reported throughout the United States, including in the State of West Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Logan County Commissioners unanimously voiced their opposition to needle exchange programs in public meeting on May 20, 2019 noting a sharp increase in discarded needles in Logan County; and

WHEREAS, a needle exchange program in Logan County would likely further endanger communities and sacrifice the safety of Logan County residents and public employees; and

WHEREAS, the facilitation of a needle exchange program within Logan County would risk putting the County in a position of financial and/or legal liability and is not in the best interests of the County or its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Logan County Commission does hereby declare:

1. the opposition of a needle exchange program in Logan County, West Virginia due to the health, safety, and liability risks that such a program would pose to the residents and employees of Logan County, and
2. that Logan County resources shall not be used to facilitate the creation, establishment, or operation of any needle exchange program, and
3. any entity desiring to create, establish, and/or operate a needle exchange program in Logan County must publicly approach the Logan County Commission to thoroughly justify and seek Commission approval for such a program.